

House of Representatives Office of Program Research

2015 Interim Plans

This document includes
House committee interim plans
approved as of September 17, 2015.
Other plans will be added as they are approved.

Please check back for future postings.

Office of Program Research
Washington House of Representatives
Jill Reinmuth, Director

September 17, 2015

Office of Program Research Washington House of Representatives

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Standing Committees

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AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Water Resources Management- Cooperative Forest Management- State-Owned Water Rights- Anadromous Fish Management | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

To sign up for e-mail notifications, including updates to meeting dates and times, please visit:
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AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Cooperative Forest Management

GOAL: Explore the uses and potential expansion of cooperative forest management principles.

DESCRIPTION: The principles of cooperative forest management are being advanced on both the state and federal level as a model of management that better provides for a diversity of beneficial outcomes with a lower risk of litigation. The Committee will build upon the foundation started with multiple work sessions held during the 2015 session related to this topic (the anniversary of the Forest and Fish Law, the Pinchot Partners, and the Teanaway management plan). The Committee will use the interim to learn more about the benefits of cooperative management and explore ways that those benefits, including benefits to forest health, recreational access, economic activity, and wildlife management, can be expanded across the landscape.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jason Callahan

Water Resources Management

GOAL: Keep abreast of recent water law developments with an eye towards 2016 legislation.

DESCRIPTION: The management of the state's finite water resources will again play a substantial role in the discussions of the Committee in 2016. The Committee will dedicate time this interim to track any ongoing judicial or administrative changes in water resource management policies, develop a deeper comprehension of the issues inherent in water resource management, and seek to foster solutions to known water resource management issues. Specifically, the Committee will focus on solutions for rural counties faced with reduced access to groundwater, the development, management, use, and potential proliferation of water banks as a solution to water scarcity, the state's response to the ongoing drought, tools available to local governments for matching infrastructure needs with points of diversion, and the evolution of the use of the overriding consideration of public interest tool by the Department of Ecology.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jason Callahan

Anadromous Fish Management

GOAL: Educate the committee on the process and information used to make decisions relating to fishing allocation and fishing season determinations.

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature long ago delegated to the Fish and Wildlife Commission the complicated and sensitive task of making determinations regarding the setting of fishing seasons for anadromous fish and making resource allocation decisions. Although the authority has been delegated, the decisions made along these lines by the Fish and Wildlife Commission are interconnected to decisions that must be made by the Legislature on both policy and fiscal items.

The Committee will take time this interim to develop a better understanding of how fishing seasons are set for anadromous species, how allocation decisions are made, what factors are considered by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, and what ramifications the decisions of the Fish and Wildlife Commission have on hatchery management, wildlife account balances, endangered species protections, and other management issues. Specifically, the Committee will invite the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Fish and Wildlife Commission, along with the Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to join the Committee in a discussion about this topic.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jason Callahan

State-Owned Water Rights

GOAL: Learn more about the portfolio of water rights owned by the state.

DESCRIPTION: The Committee considered HB 1000 in 2015. This bill would have created a mechanism whereby the Department of Fish and Wildlife could leverage the value of water rights appurtenant to land managed by the agency to fund land management and habitat enhancement needs. During deliberations, the Committee learned that additional information was needed about the status of state-owned water rights, what they are being used for today, and how much water they represent. In preparation for the 2016 session, the Committee will work with state agencies that own water rights, with a focus on the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to collect and analyze the information needed for further consideration of HB 1000 or a future legislative measure.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jason Callahan

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| September | Olympia | Work Session | - Music Licensing Agencies | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Regulatory Requirements for Exchange Facilitators - Principle-Based Reserves - Music Licensing Agencies | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Music Licensing Agencies

GOAL: Examine the practices of music licensing agencies and any potential regulatory requirements, and seek to address the views of a range of stakeholders, including the music licensing agencies, artists, restaurant and club owners, and others.

DESCRIPTION: Music licensing agencies, also known as performing rights organizations, license for a fee the music of songwriters and music publishers that they represent. These music licensing agencies may collect royalties on the performance rights whenever music contained in their catalog is played in a public setting. Venues subject to royalties include bars, nightclubs, funeral parlors, grocery stores, farmers' markets, sports arenas, and fitness centers, among others. The license fees may vary based upon the size and type of business. These agencies may file legal action to enforce the copyright claims on behalf of the persons that they represent.

During the 2015 legislative session, the Committee passed Substitute House Bill 1763, which required music licensing agencies operating in Washington to be licensed through the Department of Licensing. It also prohibited certain acts by representatives of music licensing agencies and imposed certain codes of conduct. Violation of the prohibitions contained in the bill were determined to be violations of the Consumer Protection Act. The Office of the Attorney General was directed to conduct a consumer awareness campaign regarding the rights and responsibilities of businesses that used copyrighted music. The bill did not pass the Legislature.

A work session will be held to provide a more thorough overview of the practices of music licensing agencies and will seek to address issues raised by stakeholders regarding the different versions of the bill as it was considered by both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: Two work sessions

STAFF: Linda Merelle

Regulatory Requirements for Exchange Facilitators

GOAL: Examine and report on the options for the regulation, registration, or licensure of like-kind exchange facilitators under 26 U.S.C. 1031.

DESCRIPTION: A tax-deferred exchange is a method by which an owner of a business or investment property trades the property in exchange for a like-kind replacement property. Section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that no gain or loss is recognized for this kind of transaction and allows a deferral of the payment of federal income taxes on the transaction. A tax-deferred exchange may be made using an exchange facilitator, who holds the proceeds from the sale of the original property until the funds are applied to the purchase of the replacement property.

In Washington, exchange facilitators must demonstrate fiscal responsibility and must refrain from certain prohibited activities. However, they are not required to be registered with or licensed by any state agency. In 2012 a stakeholder task force convened by the Legislature produced a report examining effective regulatory action for the exchange facilitator industry.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: David Rubenstein

Principle-Based Reserves

GOAL: Examine stakeholder views regarding the use of "principle-based reserves" as a model to determine appropriate reserves for life insurance policies.

DESCRIPTION: During the 2015 session, bills were introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate to modify the methodology for establishing the level of reserves for life insurance policies. The bills were model acts developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Pursuant to the provisions of the model act, a "valuation manual," a document subject to periodic revision by the NAIC, serves as the basis for determining reserve levels. The valuation manual would become operative after certain criteria were met. One criterion is the adoption of the model act by 42 of the 55 member states of the NAIC, which include the 50 states and five territories. Before the start of the 2015 session, 20 states had adopted the model act or some version of it. The model act had been introduced in 14 other states, including Washington, for consideration during the 2015 legislative session. As of early May 2015, the legislatures in six of these states had adopted the model act.

In Washington, both the House and Senate companion bills passed the Business & Financial Services Committee (BFS). They were referred to fiscal committees for consideration, but neither version passed out of the fiscal committees. During Committee Assembly, BFS will hold a work session to provide an overview of the provisions of the model act and their potential effect on the current level of reserve requirements for life insurance policies, and to examine the issues raised by both the proponents and opponents of the model act.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Linda Merelle

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL SERVICES STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Uninsured and Underinsured Motorists Work Group

GOAL: Monitor work group convened by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to address issues raised pursuant to House Bill 1579 regarding uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.

DESCRIPTION: House Bill 1579 required insurers to provide conspicuous notice to insureds who decline to purchase uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage, as well as information regarding the risk associated with declining such coverage. The bill was voted out of the Business & Financial Services Committee, but it did not pass the House. The Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) will convene a work group to address insurer notice requirements proposed in the bill. The work group will be staffed by the OIC, and it will meet approximately four or five times during the interim. The invited participants will be legislators from both the House of Representatives and the Senate, representatives from auto insurance companies, and representatives of consumer advocacy groups.

STAFF: Linda Merelle

CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - House Task Force on Washington Waters - Drought Response | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

House Task Force on Washington Waters

GOAL: Receive a report from the House Task Force on Washington Waters.

DESCRIPTION: Per the 2015-17 Capital Budget (2EHB 1115, sec. 1001), the House Task Force on Washington Waters will build on the foundation of SB 5628, introduced in 2015, to: (1) quantify the level of funding needed to address water supply, storm water, and flood control priorities through 2026; (2) develop and recommend: (a) state funding options that address the three priorities equally; (b) local funding options that will generate resources from agricultural and municipal beneficiaries; and (c) criteria and mechanisms for managing, prioritizing, and distributing the funding; (3) analyze and report on the metrics and variables associated with water market pricing, including the costs per acre foot of water supply developed and delivered for irrigation; and (4) address other relevant issues.

The Capital Budget Committee will receive a report from the Task Force, including its findings and recommendations.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Meg Van Schoorl (lead), Sarah Emmans, Dan Jones, and Alyssa Ball

Drought Response

GOAL: To track agricultural and municipal needs related to the 2015 drought and distribution of funding appropriated for drought response in the 2015-17 Capital Budget.

DESCRIPTION: Governor Inslee declared a statewide drought in May 2015. The 2015-17 Capital Budget includes \$16 million for drought response. The Department of Ecology has adopted an emergency funding rule to make grant funding available to public entities for projects that ensure reliable public water supplies, augment water supplies for farmers, and rescue or preserve fish runs in streams. Tracking the needs for and uses of 2015 drought funding will help inform legislative responses to additional drought budget requests for 2016. It also ties into the work of the House Task Force on Washington Waters and broader policy and budget issues related to the Columbia River Basin Water Supply and the Yakima River Basin Integrated Plan programs.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Meg Van Schoorl

CAPITAL BUDGET STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Water Supply Project Accountability Provisos

GOAL: Track Department of Ecology progress in responding to the provisos attached to the Columbia River Basin and Yakima River Basin appropriations in the 2015-17 Capital Budget.

DESCRIPTION: The 2013-15 and 2015-17 Capital Budgets have included approximately \$250 million in bond appropriations for the Columbia River Basin and Yakima River Basin projects. In evaluating and funding these capital requests, members have asked many questions, including: What are the total costs of developing and delivering these water supplies? How much of these costs should be borne by the state, how much by agricultural and municipal beneficiaries, and how much by the federal government? And how can the estimated total construction costs for projects be provided to budget writers earlier in the project development process?

Several provisos attached to the Columbia River Basin and Yakima River Basin appropriations in the 2015-17 Capital Budget require the Department of Ecology (Department) to answer fundamental questions of project beneficiaries, timelines, costs and financing sources. Tracking the Department's progress in responding to these provisos will assist capital budget writers to evaluate future water supply project funding requests.

STAFF: Meg Van Schoorl

Higher Education Prioritized List Technical Work Group

GOAL: Review the Higher Education prioritized list processes and provide scoring and weighting options for better alignment with capital budget decision making processes.

DESCRIPTION: The Higher Education Prioritized List Technical Work Group (Work Group) will examine and determine key elements, data sources, process improvements, and data needs by project category types. The Work Group will explore scoring and weighting options in order to better align the scoring process to the process for making capital budget decisions. The Work Group will provide options to the appropriate legislative committees by December 15, 2015.

STAFF: Christine Thomas

K-3 Class Size Reduction Grant Program Formula Development

GOAL: Refine classroom count methodologies and final funding formula options by December 1, 2015.

DESCRIPTION: Staff will consult with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Senate staff, and the Office of Financial Management to further refine the funding formulas and classroom counting methodologies for the K-3 Class Size Reduction Grant program to fulfill the requirements in 2ESSB 6080 (Chapter 41, Laws of 2015).

STAFF: Christine Thomas

School Construction Assistance Program Capital Budget Prediction Model

GOAL: Develop a more predictable model for determining state assistance needed in the capital budget for school construction projects based on school district bond authority.

DESCRIPTION: Staff will work with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee and the Office of Financial Management's Budget and Forecasting divisions to refine the School Construction Assistance model to more accurately predict state needs calculations. The new model will be based on school district bond authority and will be developed in time for the 2017-19 Capital Budget cycle.

STAFF: Christine Thomas

Capitol Campus Capital Projects

GOAL: Track Capitol Campus projects to ensure goals are met.

DESCRIPTION: Staff will track progress of financing for the 1063 Block Replacement project, and will coordinate with the State Treasurer's Office and the Office of Financial Management on the financing schedule.

Staff will track Capitol Campus projects to ensure energy conservation goals established by the Department of Enterprise Services are met. Staff will meet with the Department of Enterprise Services and contractors, and will summarize progress for the Capital Budget Committee.

STAFF: Steve Masse

State Office Building Space Efficiencies

GOAL: To decrease space used for state employees in state office buildings.

DESCRIPTION: Staff will research space efficiencies used in office buildings by both the public and private sectors. Staff will prepare a bill draft that provides incentives for agencies to reduce space in their offices.

STAFF: Steve Masse

HOUSE TASK FORCE ON WASHINGTON WATERS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| September | Olympia | Work Session | - House Task Force on Washington Waters | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:

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HOUSE TASK FORCE ON WASHINGTON WATERS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

House Task Force on Washington Waters

GOAL: Prepare a report and draft legislation for the 2016 session that includes funding options to meet the state's water supply, storm water, and flood control infrastructure needs through fiscal year 2026.

DESCRIPTION: Per the 2015-17 Capital Budget (2EHB 1115, sec. 1001), the House Task Force on Washington Waters will build on the foundation of SB 5628, introduced in 2015, to: (1) quantify the level of funding needed to address water supply, storm water, and flood control priorities through 2026; (2) develop and recommend: (a) state funding options that address the three priorities equally; (b) local funding options that will generate resources from agricultural and municipal beneficiaries; and (c) criteria and mechanisms for managing, prioritizing, and distributing the funding; (3) analyze and report on the metrics and variables associated with water market pricing, including the costs per acre foot of water supply developed and delivered for irrigation; and (4) address other relevant issues.

The House Speaker and Republican Leader will each appoint five members representing the Capital Budget, Finance, Appropriations, and Transportation Committees and members-at-large. Staffing will be primarily by the Office of Program Research, but the Task Force may request participation by the Office of Financial Management and other relevant executive branch agencies, as well as information from public and private organizations. The Task Force may enter into contracts for specific technical expertise using the \$75,000 appropriation.

The Task Force findings and recommendations must be reported to appropriate legislative committees by November 15, 2015.

The first meeting of the Task Force is tentatively planned for September as a work session on SB 5628. Senate sponsors may be asked to present the bill and stakeholders asked to provide their perspectives, including recommendations for changes and priority needs to be incorporated in the 2016 version.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One or two work sessions

STAFF: Meg Van Schoorl (lead), Sarah Emmans, Dan Jones, and Alyssa Ball

COMMERCE & GAMING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Internet-Based Fantasy Sports Games: Legal Issues and Regulatory Options- Internet Poker: Legal Issues and Regulatory Options- Status and Development of the Legal Marijuana Market | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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COMMERCE & GAMING COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Internet-Based Fantasy Sports Games: Legal Issues and Regulatory Options

GOAL: Examine legal issues and regulatory options regarding internet-based fantasy sports games.

DESCRIPTION: Fantasy sports games involve players who act as fantasy team owners through the creation of imaginary sports teams by picking actual athletes from existing professional or college teams. The players compete with one another based upon statistics generated by the performance of real athletes and/or real teams. Such statistics are then converted into a points system that determines winners and losers. The interest in Internet-based fantasy sports games has increased during the last several years and there are now numerous websites that sponsor games and award prizes to the winners.

In 2006 Congress passed the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act, which exempted Internet-based fantasy sports games from federal gaming restrictions and thus opened the door to the legalization of fantasy sports games on a state-by-state basis. Since then, dozens of states have legalized the playing of fantasy sports games through Internet websites. These games remain illegal in Washington. However, in 2015 the Legislature considered House Bill 1301, which, had it been enacted, would have legalized Internet-based fantasy sports games in this state.

The Committee will hold one work session to examine legal issues and regulatory options regarding Internet-based fantasy sports games.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Thamas Osborn and David Rubenstein

Internet Poker: Legal Issues and Regulatory Options

GOAL: Examine legal issues and regulatory options regarding Internet poker.

DESCRIPTION: With the passage of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act (UIGEA) in 2006, Congress generally prohibited interstate, online gaming activities, including Internet poker. However, the UIGEA prohibition does not apply to "intrastate" gaming activities in those states that have legalized online gambling. Accordingly, several states have legalized Internet poker and other online gaming activities within state borders and many others are considering similar legislation.

In Washington, Internet poker and other forms of online gaming continue to be illegal. However, in 2015 the Legislature considered, but did not enact, legislation that would have legalized Internet poker.

The Committee will hold one work session to examine legal issues and regulatory options regarding Internet poker.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Thamas Osborn and David Rubenstein

Status and Development of the Legal Marijuana Market

GOAL: Examine the status and ongoing development of the legal marijuana market in Washington.

DESCRIPTION: In 2012 Washington voters approved Initiative 502, which legalized the production, processing, sale, and possession of recreational marijuana. Beginning in 2013, the state Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) began the rule-making process for the licensing and regulation of marijuana producers, processors, and retailers. The first licensed, retail marijuana businesses began operating in July of 2014. The Legislature enacted various changes to the law governing marijuana in 2015.

The Committee will hold one work session to examine the overall functioning of the legal marijuana market and the developmental status of licensed marijuana businesses.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Thamas Osborn and David Rubenstein

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRIBAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Tribal-State Tax Compacts - Framing Community Development Issues | Full Committee |

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & TRIBAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Tribal-State Tax Compacts

GOAL: Understand the issues involving tax agreements between the state and tribes.

DESCRIPTION: State taxing authority within Indian country is a complex area of law, subject to many rules and exceptions, which balances competing tribal, state, and federal interests. Attempts have been made between the state and tribes to resolve these issues by entering into tax agreements regarding cigarettes, fuel, and timber resources. The Committee will look at examples of prior tax compacts, as well as recent proposals for amending or creating new compacting authority.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sean Flynn and Kirsten Lee

Framing Community Development Issues

GOAL: Construct a framework for understanding and developing policy within the subject of community development.

DESCRIPTION: Community development is a broad topic that involves many related issues, including economic sustainability and financing, cultural resources, and disadvantaged populations, among other concerns. These issues attract a broad group of stakeholders, including individuals, advocacy groups, and local communities, who are affected by state policies. The Committee will attempt to define the scope and focus of community development policy and formulate priorities within this area.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sean Flynn and Kirsten Lee

EARLY LEARNING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Poverty Work Session | Full Committee |

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EARLY LEARNING & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Poverty Work Session

GOAL: Receive information regarding poverty in Washington from experts in the field.

DESCRIPTION: This interim work session will provide a data snapshot of poverty in Washington. This will include a description of the historical poverty trends and a comparison of poverty in Washington with other states. The work session will provide a description of the definitions of poverty and a discussion of the geography and demographics of poverty in Washington. The participants in this work session may include the West Coast Poverty Center at the University of Washington School of Social Work, the Budget and Policy Center, Catholic Charities, the Department of Social and Health Services Research and Data Center, and other stakeholders.

Staff will also work with stakeholders and attend planning meetings with members and stakeholders to establish appropriate topics and speakers for the work session.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Ashley Paintner

EARLY LEARNING & HUMAN SERVICES STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Child Welfare Outcomes

GOAL: Collect information to determine whether Washington has made progress in child welfare outcomes over the past 10 years.

DESCRIPTION: Staff will analyze of child welfare outcome data in Washington over the past 10 years. Staff will work with the Department of Social and Health Services, Partners for Our Children, and other child welfare stakeholder groups to compile child welfare outcome information over the past 10 years to determine whether improvements have been made in outcomes for youth in the child welfare system. The child welfare outcome information may include educational outcomes, contacts with the criminal justice system, and placement (reunification, adoption, guardianship, etc.) outcomes.

STAFF: Luke Wickham

EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| September (Mid) | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Governance Frameworks of Washington's K-12 Education System- Postsecondary Transitions- The Role of Family and Community in Education | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TBD | Full Committee |

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Governance Frameworks of Washington's K-12 Education System

GOAL: Examine the structural and governance frameworks of Washington's K-12 education system.

DESCRIPTION: Education governance in Washington has evolved greatly since prior to statehood, and it continues to do so. Indeed, Washington law expressly recognizes that "[b]asic education by necessity is an evolving program of instruction intended to reflect the changing educational opportunities that are needed to equip students for their role as productive citizens...."

The Washington Constitution, court decisions, and legislation have played roles in the evolution of education governance. Under the Washington Constitution, and decisions such as *McCleary v. State* that have interpreted the Constitution, the following governance provisions have become central aspects of Washington's K-12 education system:

- It is the paramount duty of the *State (not school districts)* to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders.
- The *Legislature* must provide for a general and uniform system of public schools.
- The statewide elected *Superintendent of Public Instruction* has supervision over all matters pertaining to public schools, and must perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

Other entities, such as the State Board of Education (SBE), Professional Educator Standards Board, school districts and educational school districts, and tribal schools and charter schools, share responsibility for education governance, but their duties are statutorily prescribed rather than constitutionally mandated. Entities such as the Washington State School Directors' Association, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, and the Washington Student Achievement Council also have statutory roles in this arena. The last 10 years have seen legislation reconstituting the SBE, as well as creating the Office of the Education Ombuds (in the Governor's Office), the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, the Quality Education Council, the Charter School Commission (created via initiative), and the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee.

The Committee intends to examine the current structural and governance frameworks of Washington's K-12 system with respect to all aspects of education, including academic standards and graduation requirements, curricula, flexibility and opportunities for competency-based learning, accountability, decision-making, staffing, professional development, and family and community involvement.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Ethan Moreno and Megan Wargacki

TBD

GOAL: The goal, as well as focus and content, of the Assembly Days meeting will be determined at a later date, informed by the work session and site visits earlier in the interim.

DESCRIPTION: To be determined at a later date.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Ethan Moreno and Megan Wargacki

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|---|
| TBD | Whatcom County | Work Session | - Oil Transportation | Full Committee (Joint with Senate EET Committee) |
| October | Olympia | Work Session | - Environmental Permit Process Efficiency and Outcomes | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Emerging Challenges in Wastewater Management - On-Site Sewage System Management and Program Funding | Full Committee |

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Oil Transportation

GOAL: Continue to evaluate efforts to protect against threats to the environment and public safety from oil transportation.

DESCRIPTION: In 2015 the Legislature enacted House Bill 1449, which made a variety of changes to regulations and programs that address the safety of the overland and over-water transportation of oil. Several parts of this act call for the Legislature and state agencies to continue to evaluate oil transportation safety, including requiring that the Department of Ecology complete and report on geographic response planning, and evaluate the need for new maritime safety rules on the Columbia River. The act also requires the House Environment Committee to hold a joint meeting with the Senate Energy, Environment, and Technology Committee to address the status and safety of the international transportation of crude oil.

During the 2015 interim, consistent with the requirements of House Bill 1449, the House Environment Committee will host a joint meeting with the Senate Energy, Environment, and Technology Committee addressing the spill prevention and response activities related to the international transportation of bulk crude oil. The Committee will also continue to monitor the implementation of the new regulations, programs, and reporting requirements from House Bill 1449 and related development of federal regulations.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session (joint with Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunications)

STAFF: Jacob Lipson and Jason Callahan

Environmental Permit Process Efficiency and Outcomes

GOAL: Review environmental permitting requirements to minimize duplication while achieving environmental protection.

DESCRIPTION: The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) establishes a review process for state and local governments to identify environmental impacts that may result from government decisions, including the issuance of permits. The SEPA reviews must consider the impacts of a project or decision on a variety of elements of the environment, including the impacts on traffic and parking. In addition, several other state laws, including the Growth Management Act (GMA) and Shoreline Management Act, establish planning framework or permitting processes that may overlap with the SEPA review requirements. In 2012 the Legislature directed the Department of Ecology to update rules establishing categorical exemptions to the SEPA, including the integration of the SEPA with GMA planning.

During the 2015 interim, the Committee will continue to examine the processes and costs associated with evaluating and mitigating traffic and parking impacts in permitting processes, and will explore related opportunities to further streamline and integrate permitting processes without lessening environmental protections.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jacob Lipson and Jason Callahan

Emerging Challenges in Wastewater Management

GOAL: Explore policy options for emerging wastewater management challenges posed by the use and disposal of consumer products.

DESCRIPTION: Wastewater infrastructure is capital-intensive and treatment systems may face operational difficulties in responding to wastewater conditions different than those envisioned during system design and construction. The popularization of certain new consumer cosmetic products has introduced new materials into wastewater, and may pose challenges for wastewater treatment systems. Disposable towlette products that are marketed as flushable have been reported to have led to clogged wastewater pipes, pumps, and treatment equipment. In addition, wastewater treatment systems may not be equipped to eliminate small plastic particles used in personal care products and clothing from wastewater effluent, and studies have shown that these plastics may persist in water bodies that receive treated wastewater effluent. During the 2015 session, the Committee considered legislation to restrict the use of certain plastic components in cosmetic products.

The Committee will hear from wastewater treatment system operators about the challenges associated with treating wastewater that contains plastics and disposable cosmetic products. The Committee will also research policies employed and considered by other states to protect wastewater treatment plant operations and to ensure that wastewater treatment plant effluent does not include plastics with long-term environmental persistence.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jacob Lipson and Jason Callahan

On-Site Sewage System Management and Program Funding

GOAL: Investigate program design and funding options for on-site sewage systems in order to protect public health and water quality.

DESCRIPTION: On-site sewage systems can pose public hazard and water quality risks when not properly maintained. Local health jurisdictions in counties bordering Puget Sound have developed management plans for on-site sewage systems. Funding for on-site septic program administration has intermittently come from a variety of local, state, and federal sources. During the 2015 session, the House of Representatives considered legislation to strengthen septic system program requirements and to establish a more complete and consistent funding source for local government on-site program management activities.

During the 2015 interim, the Committee will continue to solicit feedback from septic system program stakeholders on options to ensure robust on-site septic system program funding that protects human health and the environment.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jason Callahan and Jacob Lipson

ENVIRONMENT STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Climate Adaptation

GOAL: Continue to evaluate the state's climate change resiliency and adaptation preparedness.

DESCRIPTION: Since 2012 the state has had in place an integrated climate change response strategy. This strategic plan, which was originally coordinated by the Department of Ecology, tracks the anticipated impacts of climate change on state agency activities focused on public health, the built environment, transportation infrastructure, and wildlife, forest, water, and other natural resource management. The Committee recently held two work sessions to hear from local governments, private landowners, and state agencies about how they have integrated preparations for a changing climate into their management programs and planning.

During the 2015 interim, Committee staff will continue to research the climate change preparation activities of state and local government agencies and private landowners, and will research policy options related to the state's support of climate change resiliency and adaptation efforts.

STAFF: Jacob Lipson

FINANCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| October | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tax Expenditure Reporting and Budgeting - Tribal Taxation - Aerospace Tax Incentive Accountability in Other States | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates on Interim Activities by DOR, LCB, JLARC, ERFC, and Other Workgroups with Tax-Related Duties - Comparative Analysis of the Combined Tax Burden on Industries in Washington and Several Select States - Water Infrastructure Financing | Full Committee |
| December | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - K-12 Funding Reform Options to Support Increased Teacher Salary Expenditures by the State - Who Pays for Education: How Different Levels of Government in Different States Fund Education - Recent Property Tax Trends | Full Committee |

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FINANCE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Tax Expenditure Reporting and Budgeting

GOAL: Review the extent to which states prepare tax expenditure reports and how these reports are incorporated in the budgeting process.

DESCRIPTION: Washington, as well as other states and the federal government, provide numerous tax exemptions, deductions, credits, and preferential rates. At the federal level, they are collectively referred to as tax expenditures. These tax expenditures provide considerable tax savings to individuals and businesses, but also reduce revenues for federal, state, and local jurisdictions. The federal government and states incorporate these tax expenditures into the budgeting process in different ways. The Committee will be briefed on how certain selected jurisdictions incorporate tax expenditures into their respective budget processes.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Dominique Meyers

Tribal Taxation

GOAL: Provide an overview of tribal taxation.

DESCRIPTION: The taxation of activities related to tribes and tribal members is a complex area of the tax law that depends on where the activity takes place, who is being taxed, and the specific type of tax at hand. The Committee will receive an overview of the major considerations with respect to tribal tax issues. This will also include a discussion of the taxation of liquor and marijuana sales on Indian land.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jeff Mitchell

Aerospace Tax Incentive Accountability in Other States

GOAL: Provide an overview of accountability measures included in aerospace tax incentive laws adopted in other states.

DESCRIPTION: In 2003 the Washington State Legislature enacted a comprehensive array of tax incentives for the aerospace industry. These incentives were originally set to expire in 2024. In a November 2013 special session, the Legislature extended these tax incentives for another 16 years. In recent years, other states such as Missouri, South Carolina, and Alabama have also provided tax incentives to the aerospace industry. Some of these states specifically tied jobs to these tax incentives. In 2015 several bills were introduced that would have provided job or wage standards for firms claiming these aerospace-related tax incentives. The Committee will explore what other states have done to tie jobs or other performance measures to aerospace-related tax incentives.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Dominique Meyers

Updates on Interim Activities by DOR, LCB, JLARC, ERFC, and Other Workgroups with Tax-Related Duties

GOAL: Receive briefings from the Department of Revenue, Liquor and Cannabis Board, Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee, and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council on tax-related activities occurring over the 2015 interim.

DESCRIPTION: During the 2015 interim, various state agencies will be involved with programs, litigation, studies, and other endeavors directly involving state and local taxes. Examples include the Liquor and Cannabis Board's implementation of initiatives related to marijuana and liquor; tax-related litigation involving the Department of Revenue; the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee's performance audits of tax preferences; and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's quarterly analysis and forecasts of economic activity and state revenue. The Committee will receive an update on these and other similar-tax related activities.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jeff Mitchell

Comparative Analysis of the Combined Tax Burden on Industries in Washington and Several Select States

GOAL: Provide a comparative analysis of Washington and several other states.

DESCRIPTION: In all states, including Washington, businesses are subject to a variety of state taxes. In Washington, these taxes include the property tax, sales tax, gross-receipts business taxes, and several payroll-related taxes for unemployment insurance and workers compensation. The Committee will look at data showing the combined impact of various state taxes on industry sectors and how Washington compares to several other states.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Richelle Geiger

Water Infrastructure Financing

GOAL: Evaluate the state and local funding recommendations made by the House of Representatives Interim Task Force on Washington Waters.

DESCRIPTION: Low water supply in portions of eastern Washington, catastrophic flood damage, and stormwater runoff polluting the state's waterways have reached crisis levels, endangering the health and safety of the state's citizens and the environment. A 2015 House interim task force, which will include two members from the Finance Committee, will prepare a report and draft legislation by November 15, 2015, which includes state and local funding options to address these water-financing needs. The full Finance Committee will be briefed on the task force's recommended state and local financing components.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sarah Emmans

K-12 Funding Reform Options to Support Increased Teacher Salary Expenditures by the State

GOAL: Explore a variety of K-12 funding reform options to increase teacher salary expenditures by the state including options that involve simultaneous modifications to the state property tax levy and local school district levies.

DESCRIPTION: In 2012, in its ruling in *McCleary v. Washington*, the Washington Supreme Court held that the state has not complied with its Article IX, section 1 constitutional duty to make ample provision for the basic education of all children in Washington by providing regular, dependable, and adequate state funding. While the Legislature has made inroads in its duty to fully fund a program of basic education, the Legislature must still address the intertwined issues of increasing state funding for teacher compensation and reducing the over-reliance of school districts on local property tax levies to fund teacher compensation due to the inadequacy of state funding. The Committee will review revenue sources that could be used to supplement the state's existing tax base to support additional teacher salary expenditures. This review will also include an analysis of options that contemplate simultaneous changes to both the state levy and local school levies.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Richelle Geiger and Jeff Mitchell

Who Pays for Education: How Different Levels of Government in Different States Fund Education

GOAL: Look at the diversity of education funding across the states.

DESCRIPTION: In every state, education funding comes from some combination of federal, state, and local sources, but the proportions vary. The federal government typically provides about 10 percent of funding in most states. On average among the 50 states, state funds account for somewhat less than half and local sources provide the rest. The Committee will receive an overview of the diversity of education funding across the states.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sarah Emmans

Recent Property Tax Trends

GOAL: Update Committee members on changes over the past 15 years in median home prices, assessed values, property tax rates, regular and special levies, and other property-tax related issues.

DESCRIPTION: The property tax was the first tax levied in Washington. Today, property taxes account for about 30 percent of total state and local taxes. Property taxes continue to be the most important revenue source for public schools, fire protection, libraries, and parks and recreation. The property tax is also the most complicated tax in Washington. Over the past several decades there have been substantial fluctuations in property values, but because of statutory and constitutional limitations and broader changes with respect to funding various services such as education and fire protection, there has been a unique interplay with tax rates, revenues, and the composition of state and local levies. The Committee will receive an overview of these changes.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jeff Mitchell and Dominique Meyers

GENERAL GOVERNMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - General Government Agency Legislative Reports and Budget Initiatives | Full Committee |

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

General Government Agency Legislative Reports and Budget Initiatives

GOAL: Provide members with updates related to legislative reports and implementation of budget initiatives.

DESCRIPTION: There are approximately 68 state agencies with issues that may be referred to the General Government and Information Technology Committee. This project will provide an overview to committee members on legislative reports and budget initiatives for these agencies that were directed in the 2015 session.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Meghan Bunch, Dan Jones, Derek Rutter, Rachelle Harris, and David Pringle

HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Health Care Workforce Issues in Rural and Underserved Areas - Community Health Workers | Full Committee |

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HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Health Care Workforce Issues in Rural and Underserved Areas

GOAL: Receive an update on health care workforce issues.

DESCRIPTION: Several entities in Washington study current and projected health care workforce shortages and policy options for ensuring an adequate supply of health care personnel, particularly in rural and underserved areas. The Committee will request briefings on current trends in the health care workforce from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, the Center for Health Workforce Studies, and other stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Alexa Silver and Jim Morishima

Community Health Workers

GOAL: Examine policy options for regulatory issues related to community health workers.

DESCRIPTION: Community health workers provide culturally appropriate health education and information, assist people in receiving the care they need, offer interpretation and translation services, and provide informal guidance on health behaviors. Several states have enacted laws to define the role of community health workers and require that they be trained and obtain certification. Community health workers are not licensed in Washington, but the Department of Health offers a voluntary online training program. The State Health Care Innovation Plan recommends convening a team to focus on community health workers and develop a timeline for establishing an effective community health worker workforce in the state. In this work session, the Committee will examine policy options related to community health workers, including training, scope of practice, and reimbursement, and will receive a report from any work group established to focus on community health workers.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Chris Blake and Alexa Silver

HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Childhood Immunization Rates

GOAL: Research strategies in other states to improve childhood immunization rates.

DESCRIPTION: Washington law conditions a child's attendance at a school or licensed day care center on presenting proof of full immunization, proof of compliance with an immunization schedule, or a certificate of exemption. Exemptions for medical, religious, and philosophical or personal objections are available. During the 2015 legislative session, the Committee considered legislation that would have eliminated the exemption based on the parent or guardian's philosophical or personal objection to immunization of the child. In this project, Committee staff will research strategies that other states have pursued to improve childhood immunization rates.

STAFF: Alexa Silver and Jim Morishima

Substance Use: Tobacco, Vaping, Alcohol, and Marijuana

GOAL: Monitor policies and legislation in other states and at the federal level aimed at mitigating the public health impacts of tobacco, vapor products, alcohol, and marijuana.

DESCRIPTION: Recent increases in the availability of various substances raise questions for policymakers regarding the public health impacts of these products, particularly with respect to minors. Washington law currently prohibits the sale of vapor products to a minor, and in 2015 several bills to regulate vapor products were considered. Recent voter initiatives have allowed the commercial sale of marijuana for nonmedical purposes and the sale of liquor in stores not operated by the state. In 2015 legislation was enacted to establish a regulatory system for the use of medical marijuana. In this project, Committee staff will monitor policies and legislation adopted by the federal government and other states aimed at mitigating the public health impacts of tobacco, vapor products, marijuana, and alcohol.

STAFF: Chris Blake and Alexa Silver

Public Health and Chronic Disease

GOAL: Understand the implications of underfunding public health activities related to chronic conditions and other services affecting population health.

DESCRIPTION: Funding sources and service delivery methods for public health have changed over the last several decades. As non-categorical funding for public health activities has either declined or been used to cover more activities, the way that public health services are delivered has changed. Committee staff will review the way that other states have organized their public health systems to conduct public health activities related to chronic conditions and other services affecting the health of the population.

STAFF: Chris Blake and Alexa Silver

Sunrise Reviews

GOAL: Monitor the sunrise review proceedings for birth assistant certification and coverage of human donor milk.

DESCRIPTION: The Chair of the Health Care and Wellness Committee will request that the Department of Health conduct a sunrise review for two proposals. The first proposal would require certification of birth assistants, and the second proposal would require insurance coverage of human donor milk. In this project, staff will monitor the sunrise review proceedings and the resulting recommendations.

STAFF: Alexa Silver and Jim Morishima

ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM TASK FORCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|--|----------------|
| June | Olympia | Public Hearing/ Work Session | - Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force | Full Committee |
| July | Burien | Public Hearing/ Work Session | - Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force | Full Committee |
| October | Burien | Public Hearing/ Work Session | - Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Public Hearing/ Work Session | - Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force | Full Committee |

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ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM TASK FORCE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force

GOAL: Review the community behavioral health system, including treatment services and the crisis system.

DESCRIPTION: Second Substitute Senate Bill 6312 (2014) established the Adult Behavioral Health Systems Task Force (Task Force) to meet over the 2014 and 2015 interims. The Task Force includes legislators, executive branch representatives, county officials, and a tribal representative. In 2014 the Task Force covered many issues related to the integration and delivery of behavioral health services and submitted its preliminary report in December 2014. The preliminary report identified several issues that the Task Force intends to discuss in 2015, including the integration of behavioral health services with medical services and reviewing the state's crisis mental health system. In 2014 the Task Force established three work groups to focus on issues related to the early adoption of full integration, the integration of mental health and substance use disorder services, and Involuntary Treatment Act issues. The Task Force will continue to receive reports from the work groups that it established. The Task Force will issue its final report in December 2015.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: Four work sessions with public comment

STAFF: Chris Blake and Andy Toulon

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|----------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| June | Olympia | Work Session | - Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington | Full Committee |
| November | Olympia | Work Session | - Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington | Full Committee |
| December | Olympia | Work Session | - Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington | Full Committee |

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JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Oversight and Monitoring Implementation of Health Care Policy in Washington

GOAL: Oversee and monitor executive agencies and the Health Benefit Exchange as they implement the state's health care policy.

DESCRIPTION: Several agencies and entities have a role in implementing health care policy in Washington, including the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the Department of Health, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, and the Health Benefit Exchange. The Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight provides oversight between these agencies and organizations. This oversight will include monitoring of each entity's activities to ensure they are not duplicating their efforts and are working towards a goal of increased quality of service.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: Three work sessions

STAFF: Alexa Silver and Jim Morishima

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Faculty and Staff Compensation - Student Supports | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Student Supports

GOAL: Review and analyze innovative and effective student supports that improve student graduation rates and determine if legislative action is appropriate.

DESCRIPTION: One of the state's higher education goals is to increase the number of postsecondary degrees and certificates earned so that at least 70 percent of Washington adults, ages 24-44, have a postsecondary credential by 2023. Therefore, the Committee intends to review how innovative student support programs that include mentoring, advising, and career counseling help improve student retention and graduation rates.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Megan Mulvihill

Faculty and Staff Compensation

GOAL: Examine the higher education faculty and staff compensation trends to determine if legislative action is appropriate.

DESCRIPTION: State higher education institutions employ about one-half of the state's workforce. In recent years, the Committee examined faculty recruitment and retention trends. The data indicated that the non-faculty exempt workforce has tripled in size over the past 20 years and experienced an increase in average salaries, while faculty and classified staff wages decreased.

The Committee will receive an update on these trends by reviewing the most recent data available; hear about the structure and types of faculty and staff employed at the institutions; and hear from faculty, administrative staff, and faculty union representatives.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Megan Wargacki

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| September | Olympia | Work Session | - Law Enforcement Use of Body Worn Cameras | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Washington Act Limiting Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation - 2016 Session Preview | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Law Enforcement Use of Body Worn Cameras

GOAL: Hear from experts and interested stakeholders on the issues surrounding law enforcement use of body worn cameras with a goal of developing legislation for the 2016 session.

DESCRIPTION: Last session the Committee considered two pieces of legislation establishing requirements and standards around the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement agencies, SHB 1917 and HB 1910. SHB 1917, which passed the Committee but did not pass the House, would require law enforcement agencies to set policies surrounding the use of body-worn cameras and establish limitations on the disclosure of recordings made by law enforcement officers.

The Committee will hear from experts and stakeholders to discuss the various issues raised by the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement agencies with a goal of developing legislation for consideration in the 2016 session. Issues for discussion include appropriate use of the cameras, appropriate restrictions on disclosure and use of information collected from use of the cameras, necessary policies for agencies deploying the cameras, and the expected benefits and downsides that may result from use of the cameras. Relevant stakeholders participating in the work session will include representatives of: law enforcement agencies; prosecuting attorneys; criminal defense attorneys; victims advocacy groups; communities of color; and the media and open government entities.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Edie Adams and Omeara Harrington

Washington Act Limiting Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation

GOAL: Review the Washington Act Limiting Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation and court decisions interpreting the law.

DESCRIPTION: Strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs) are lawsuits initiated against people who speak out about a matter of public concern. The Washington Act Limiting Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, also known as the anti-SLAPP law, was enacted in 2010. The stated goal of the anti-SLAPP law is to strike a balance between the rights of persons to file lawsuits and the rights of persons to participate in matters of public concern by establishing an efficient method for speedy adjudication of SLAPPs. The anti-SLAPP law allows a party to a lawsuit to bring a special motion to strike any claim that is based on an "action involving public participation and petition," and provides that a party who prevails on the motion may recover statutory damages of \$10,000, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs of litigation. The Committee will hold a work session to review the anti-SLAPP law and receive an update on court cases interpreting the law, and hear from stakeholders on the policy implications of the law and relevant court decisions.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Cece Clynnh

2016 Session Preview

GOAL: Review legislation and issues for the 2016 session.

DESCRIPTION: The Committee will have a work session to review significant legislative proposals and issues for the upcoming 2016 legislative session.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Cece Clynch, Omeara Harrington, and Edie Adams

LABOR COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| September | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Occupational Exposure to Lead - Catastrophic Claims Gap Analysis - Investigation of Workers' Compensation Worker Fraud - Payroll Cards and Other Wage Payment Methods | Full Committee |
| October | SeaTac | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commercial Janitorial Safety - Violations of Worker Rights - Regulation of the Construction Trade | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workers' Compensation Rates and the Contingency Reserve - Medical Benefits in Permanent Partial Disability Claims - Noncompetition Agreements | Full Committee |

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LABOR COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Occupational Exposure to Lead

GOAL: Learn about lead as an occupational hazard and efforts to protect workers and their families from lead exposure. Learn about the regulatory oversight of permissible lead levels and efforts made by the Department of Labor and Industries to keep pace with scientific evidence. Determine whether legislation is needed.

DESCRIPTION: Beginning in the fall of 2014, the *Seattle Times* published a series of articles on lead poisoning occurring at shooting ranges nationwide. Since 1993 Washington has operated an "Occupational Lead Exposure Registry," the purpose of which is to identify patterns and trends in elevated blood lead levels in adult workers. The registry is located within the Safety and Health Assessment and Research for Prevention (SHARP) Program of the Department of Labor and Industries (Department). A SHARP bulletin on lead hazards at indoor firing ranges lists several different prevention efforts that shooting ranges can implement, such as reducing the use of lead-contaminating ammunition, providing good ventilation, using a wet system when sweeping, and providing training and protective gear for employees of the ranges.

The Committee will hear from the Department about its registry program, what the data from the registry shows regarding industries that have a high risk of lead exposures to workers, what the current permissible lead levels are and how they are established, and what efforts the Department has taken to keep pace with scientific evidence and reduce workplace exposures. The Committee will hear from stakeholders about lead exposure in specific workplaces, such as shooting ranges.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Trudes Tango

Catastrophic Claims Gap Analysis

GOAL: Obtain an update on changes resulting from the Department of Labor and Industries' gap analysis of catastrophic claims.

DESCRIPTION: Catastrophic workplace injuries include severe burns, amputations, spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, and multiple trauma. In September 2014, the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) completed a gap analysis of catastrophic claims and issued a report. The report includes a discussion of: the current health care delivery system for catastrophic injuries, including key strengths; a review of catastrophic claims data; a review of gaps identified or perceived by staff and health care providers; and a set of potential countermeasures for consideration. Gaps were identified in three areas: (1) communication care coordination and planning; (2) data systems; and (3) access to evidence-based care.

The Committee will hear an update from the Department on implementation of administrative changes to respond to the gap analysis and any recommendations for legislation.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Investigation of Workers' Compensation Worker Fraud

GOAL: Learn about the investigation of worker fraud and hear stakeholder comments.

DESCRIPTION: Worker fraud occurs when a worker files a claim for an injury that did not occur at work or did not occur at all, participates in activities inconsistent with being injured, or works while receiving time-loss benefits.

The Committee will hear from the Department of Labor and Industries about the process for discovering and investigating fraud and the results of investigations. In addition, the Committee will hear from stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Payroll Cards and Other Wage Payment Methods

GOAL: Continue work on how to protect workers when receiving wages through various methods.

DESCRIPTION: As an alternative to paying wages by direct deposit or a paper check, some employers offer a payroll card, in which the employer electronically transfers an employee's wages to an account and the employee accesses the account by using the card. Under federal law, employers must offer employees a method of receiving wages other than a payroll card.

During the 2015 session, the House passed ESHB 1211, which would have required employers to pay wages by a method that allows an employee to obtain any part or all of his or her wages without fees or costs. The bill also would have required that the alternative to a payroll card be a method other than direct deposit, unless the employee requested direct deposit. The bill died in the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee.

The Committee will hear from the Department of Labor and Industries regarding current protections for workers in how wages are paid and continue its work on payroll cards and other methods of wage payment. The Committee will also hear from stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Commercial Janitorial Safety

GOAL: Hear the report from the Department of Labor and Industries regarding commercial janitorial safety issues, hear from stakeholders regarding recommendations, and consider whether legislation is needed.

DESCRIPTION: In 2014 HB 2477 was heard in Committee but died in the House Rules Committee. The bill would have limited the square footage that commercial janitorial staff could be required to clean during an eight-hour shift. At the end of the 2014 session, legislators asked the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) to work with stakeholders to develop recommendations for establishing standards for safe workloads and health and safety training for commercial janitorial workers.

The Department convened a work group consisting of representatives from business and labor. The work group met four times in 2014, and the Department issued a report of the work group's conclusions and recommendations in January 2015. During the 2015 session, the Department of Health was asked to conduct a Health Impact Review of draft legislation addressing commercial janitorial safety. The Health Impact Review is expected to be completed by June 30, 2015.

The Committee will hear a summary of the report from the Department of Labor and Industries, a summary of the Health Impact Review, and from stakeholders regarding the work group's conclusions and recommendations and the possible need for further action.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Trudes Tango

Violations of Worker Rights

GOAL: Review laws and data regarding retaliation, misclassification, wage theft, and labor trafficking, and consider what needs to be done to address labor trafficking.

DESCRIPTION: In the last several years, the Committee has taken action on legislation to protect workers from wage violations. Bills passed out of the Committee in 2015 include SHB 1354, which would have created parallel anti-retaliation provisions in several wage laws, and HB 1519, which dealt with misclassification of workers as independent contractors, a form of wage theft. A related issue is labor trafficking, in which force, fraud, or coercion is used to recruit, harbor, transport, provide, or obtain a person for labor or services in involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery.

The Committee will hear an overview of remedies for retaliation in current law and gaps in remedies, hear reports on misclassification and wage theft in the state and nation, and review current efforts regarding labor trafficking and what needs to be done to address labor trafficking. The Committee will also hear from stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Regulation of the Construction Trade

GOAL: Review the regulatory scheme for the construction trades, including any agency discretion for minor work and the role of advisory committees and similar entities.

DESCRIPTION: In the last few years, the Committee has heard a number of bills dealing with who may do specific types of work in the construction trades. For example, in 2014 a bill was enacted (HB 2253) to allow telecommunications workers, who are not required to be certified, to perform certain connections with power. In 2013 and again in 2015, bills were introduced (HB 1760 - 2013; HB 1608 - 2015) to allow certain specialty electricians to do some appliance replacements without a plumbing certificate. Another 2015 bill, ESSB 5282, would have exempted certain residential security systems from permitting and inspection requirements.

The Committee will hear an overview from the Department of Labor and Industries of credentialing and permitting for the various trades, including the fiscal impacts of fees, and when the agency has discretion for minor work. As part of its study, the Committee will learn about the roles of the various regulatory and advisory boards, such as the Electrical Board and the Washington Apprenticeship and Training Council. The work session will include stakeholder input.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Workers' Compensation Rates and the Contingency Reserve

GOAL: Receive an overview of how industrial insurance rates are established and the purposes and goals of the contingency reserve.

DESCRIPTION: In 2015 the average base rate for industrial insurance was increased by 0.8 percent. The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) determined that the 0.8 percent would cover benefit obligations for injured workers and help rebuild the contingency reserve.

The Committee will hear from the Department about how rates are set, the factors that are considered in setting the rates, and how rates have changed historically. The Committee will also hear information on the contingency reserve and the plan to restore the contingency reserve over the next few years.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Trudes Tango

Medical Benefits in Permanent Partial Disability Claims

GOAL: Continue exploring issues regarding providing medical benefits following claim closure of permanent partial disability claims.

DESCRIPTION: When an injured worker's condition becomes fixed and the worker receives a permanent partial disability award, treatment through the industrial insurance system ends. For workers who receive a permanent total disability award (also known as a pension), the Supervisor of Industrial Insurance at the Department of Labor and Industries may authorize continued medical and surgical treatment to protect the workers' life or alleviate pain.

During the 2015 session, the Committee passed SHB 1613, which would have allowed the Supervisor to authorize continued medications and related treatment for certain permanent partial disability claims when necessary to protect the worker's life. This bill died in the House Rules Committee.

During the 2015 interim, the Committee will conduct an in-depth exploration of the issues regarding providing medical benefits after claim closure in permanent partial disability benefit claims. The Committee will hear from the Department of Labor and Industries and other stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

Noncompetition Agreements

GOAL: Continue work on noncompetition agreements, to include a review of recent proposals, an update of activity in other states, and input from stakeholders.

DESCRIPTION: Noncompetition employment agreements are used in a variety of industries. During the 2015 session, the Committee recommended two bills dealing with these agreements. House Bill 1577 would have, among other things, made noncompetition agreements for certain workers void. House Bill 1920 was broader and would have made restraints of trade void, with some exceptions. These bills both died in the House Rules Committee.

The Committee will continue its work on noncompetition agreements, to include a review of the 2015 legislation, an overview of laws and activity in other states, and input from stakeholders.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Joan Elgee

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|---|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| September (Late)/ Early October (TBA) | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Growth Management Act: Considerations for a Structured Review - The Impacts of Land Trust Property Purchases | Full Committee |
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Government Finances - Public Records Requests of Local Governments | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:

<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Growth Management Act: Considerations for a Structured Review

GOAL: Consider options for a structured review of the Growth Management Act.

DESCRIPTION: In the 25 years since its original enactment, the Growth Management Act (GMA) has significantly reformed the processes and results of planning decisions and land use practices in Washington. Between 1990 and 2014, Washington also has seen its population increase 43 percent from 4.87 million to 6.97 million, and the Office of Financial Management estimated in 2014 the state will have 8.8 million residents in 2040.

This project will explore and consider options for structuring and conducting a review of the GMA. It will include a review of the Oregon Task Force on Land Use Planning, "The Big Look," that examined Oregon's land use practices, and a consideration of convening an expert review and recommendations task force to better ensure that Washington's land use practices align with the needs of current and future residents.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Michaela Murdock and Cassie Jones

The Impacts of Land Trust Property Purchases

GOAL: Examine practices, considerations, and public and private impacts resulting from land trust purchases of property.

DESCRIPTION: Legislation considered by the Committee in 2015 (i.e., HB 1629 and 1630) related to land trust purchases of property and the associated impacts. Land trusts are private nonprofit organizations that purchase or accept donations of land or conservation easements for conservation purposes such as habitat preservation. Land trusts may obtain full right, title, and interest in property, or may enter into agreements with property owners to permanently limit the uses of land. Land trust purchases, while providing environmental benefits through land preservation, can also reduce local government tax bases and create unintended consequences for owners of adjoining properties. This project will examine practices, considerations, and public and private impacts resulting from land trust purchases of property.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Michaela Murdock and Cassie Jones

Local Government Finances

GOAL: Conduct an examination of local government finances, including revenues, obligations, and unfunded mandates.

DESCRIPTION: The Committee frequently considers legislation related to funding mechanisms of local governments, as well as legislation and policies that have fiscal impacts on local governments. This project will examine the structure of local government finances to develop a fuller understanding of local government revenue, financial and regulatory obligations, unfunded mandates, and the impact of legislation.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Michaela Murdock and Cassie Jones

Public Records Requests of Local Governments

GOAL: Receive a report from the State Auditor and others regarding the status and preliminary results of the paper and electronic records cost estimate study required by section 124(2) of ESSB 6052 (i.e., the 2015-17 Operating Budget).

DESCRIPTION: The State Auditor, in consultation with the State Chief Information Officer and the Attorney General, is developing a methodology and conducting a study to establish an accurate cost estimate for providing paper and electronic copies of records in response to requests under the Public Records Act. The State Auditor is conducting this study pursuant to section 124(2) of ESSB 6052 (i.e., the 2015-17 Operating Budget). The State Auditor is required to consult with local government agencies in developing and conducting the study, and must report the results of the study to the Legislature no later than December 31, 2015.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session (State Government Committee invited to attend)

STAFF: Michaela Murdock and Cassie Jones

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emergency Response Communication Gaps- Impaired Driving: Saliva/Breath Tests and Alcohol Monitoring Programs- Multijurisdictional Task Forces | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Emergency Response Communication Gaps

GOAL: Improve public safety by identifying and reducing communication gaps in the emergency response community.

DESCRIPTION: Interoperability is the information technology that provides the ability for state, local, and federal agencies to communicate and exchange data with one another during an emergency. When natural disasters strike or catastrophic man-made events occur, existing infrastructure is often disrupted or compromised, power and communications frequently fail, and personal contact can become difficult. Rural areas may become isolated and urban areas impassible and dangerous. Maintaining order, implementing evacuations, conducting rescue operations and providing relief distribution can become problematic if the technology is not readily available and operational for the pertinent parties to communicate with one another.

In order to ensure that public safety systems can communicate with one another, officials representing each of the following entities will be invited to discuss gaps in emergency responders' abilities to communicate across jurisdictions and functions: the Washington State Patrol; the Washington Military Department; the Department of Transportation; the Department of Natural Resources; the Department of Information Services; the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); the federal Department of Defense and the Military Department; city and county governments; state and local law enforcement; state and local fire chiefs; and state and local emergency management directors. The Committee will discuss possible communication gaps associated with the mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery phases of emergency operations plans (EOP), how first responders communicate with one another during such stages, and ways to bridge and improve interoperability communications across all levels of government in Washington.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Yvonne Walker and Kelly Leonard

Impaired Driving: Saliva/Breath Tests and Alcohol Monitoring Programs

GOAL: Learn about current alcohol and drug monitoring programs used in Washington, as well as potential new saliva/breath tests being developed for the use of detecting drugs at the time of a suspected impaired driving stop.

DESCRIPTION: Impaired driving has been a major issue that the Public Safety Committee has tackled for many years. A person may commit Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug if the person drives with a blood or breath alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or higher, or is under the influence of or affected by liquor or any drug. Under the implied consent laws, a driver is presumed to have given consent to a breath alcohol concentration (BAC) test if the driver is arrested for a DUI offense. As such, any person who operates a vehicle in Washington is deemed to have given consent to a test of his or her breath for the purposes of determining the BAC, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration, or presence of any drug. However, due to technology, THC and other drugs cannot presently be measured or tested with a breath test.

The Department of Chemistry at Washington State University (WSU) is currently working on the development of a field testing device for detecting THC at the time of contact in a suspected impaired driving stop by law enforcement. Its work has focused on the investigation of ion mobility spectrometry (IMS) as a tool for trace organic analysis and which can be used as a tool for the detection of illicit drugs.

Staff from WSU, as well as other experts, will be invited to provide committee members with an overview of new technology surrounding breath and saliva testing for drugs, as well as other alcohol monitoring systems that are used in Washington.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Yvonne Walker

Multijurisdictional Task Forces

GOAL: Learn how multijurisdictional task forces allow multiple law enforcement agencies in different jurisdictions to operate as a single investigative collaborative enforcement unit by sharing resources and coordinating activities.

DESCRIPTION: Generally, a multijurisdictional task force is a cooperative law enforcement effort involving two or more criminal justice agencies, with jurisdiction over two or more areas, sharing the common goal of addressing such issues as drug control, gang activity, auto thefts, property offenses, sex offenses, or other types of violent crime problems. Multijurisdictional task forces allow law enforcement agencies in different jurisdictions to work together as a single enforcement entity with the ability to improve communication, share intelligence, and coordinate activities. This allows for more efficient use of resources and targeting of offenders whose activities cross jurisdictional boundaries.

The Committee will hold a work session to learn more about the multijurisdictional task forces that are used in Washington, how they operate, how they are funded, how enforcement and arrest decisions are made, how effective they are, and what federal, state, and local entities participate and are involved in such task forces.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Yvonne Walker

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATION BEST PRACTICES TASK FORCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|------|----------|--------------|--|----------------|
| TBA | TBA | Work Session | - Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits | Full Committee |
| TBA | TBA | Work Session | - Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATION BEST PRACTICES TASK FORCE COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits

GOAL: Reducing the number of untested sexual assault examination kits in Washington.

DESCRIPTION: In 2015 the Legislature passed SHB 1068, which created a task force to review best practice models for managing all aspects of sexual assault examinations and for reducing the number of untested sexual assault examination kits in Washington. Among other duties, the task force must research and determine the number of untested sexual assault examination kits, make policy recommendations for reducing the number of untested sexual assault examination kits, and make recommendations for securing nonstate funding for testing sexual assault examination kits.

The task force must convene at least two meetings annually, with the first meeting occurring prior to October 1, 2015. A preliminary report with initial findings and recommendations is due to the appropriate committees of the Legislature and the Governor by December 1, 2015.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: Two work sessions

STAFF: Kelly Leonard

STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Voter Registration- State Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities- Election Issues - Ballot Counting Equipment, Uniform Ballots, and Ballot Drop Boxes | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
<http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

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STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Voter Registration

GOAL: Educate the Committee on Oregon's automatic voter registration system.

DESCRIPTION: In an effort to increase voter participation, Oregon recently became the first state to enact a law to automatically register its residents to vote by using information from the driver licenses. A representative from the Oregon Secretary of State's Office will make a presentation about the program to the Committee.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sean Flynn

State Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

GOAL: Consider policies for coordinating state employment practices regarding persons with disabilities.

DESCRIPTION: Several state agencies and the Governor's Office have initiated efforts to increase state employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. However, there is no coordinated program or practice for the implementation of these policies. This year, the Legislature passed a bill that would require large agencies to report on hiring practices related to persons with disabilities.

The Committee will examine the implementation and initial results of this new reporting requirement, as well as consider additional steps to consolidate and coordinate state employment practices to increase opportunities for persons with disabilities within state government.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sean Flynn

Election Issues - Ballot Counting Equipment, Uniform Ballots, and Ballot Drop Boxes

GOAL: Update the Committee on various election issues.

DESCRIPTION: County auditors and the Secretary of State will update the Committee on the status of federally-approved ballot counting equipment and any issues regarding adoption of a uniform ballot style for every county. The Committee will also be updated on the number of ballot drop boxes in each county, the percentage of ballots received in drop boxes as opposed to those received through the U.S. mail, and plans for expansion of drop boxes.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Sean Flynn

STATE GOVERNMENT STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Public Records

GOAL: Track public records issues pertaining to charging for electronic copies and providing records for commercial purposes.

DESCRIPTION: Public records requests for electronic information or for commercial purposes present issues for agencies regarding the fee that may be assessed and the amount agencies may charge under the Public Records Act to recover its costs for providing such records. Staff will review and analyze legislation introduced in recent years that attempted to address these issues.

STAFF: Sean Flynn

TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | - Energy Policy | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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TECHNOLOGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Energy Policy

GOAL: Receive updates about emerging energy policy issues.

DESCRIPTION: The Committee will receive briefings on two energy policy issues: (1) issues related to HB 1289/SB 5804 (2015) and the Washington State Energy Code; and (2) briefing from Department of Ecology on process, timelines, and outcomes for compliance with the federal Clean Power Plan.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jasmine Vasavada and Nikkole Hughes

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

| DATE | LOCATION | TYPE | SUBJECTS | COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------|---|----------------|
| November Committee Assembly | Olympia | Work Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint Transportation Committee Design-Build Study - Washington State Patrol and Department of Transportation Efficiency and Effectiveness of Weigh Station Operations - Washington State Patrol Trooper Recruitment and Retention - I-405 Express Toll Lane Implementation - Mega Project Update - Washington State Ferries - Vehicle Reservations System Implementation/Experience - 2015 November Budget and Revenue Update | Full Committee |

To view specific meeting dates and times, please visit:
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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

Joint Transportation Committee Design-Build Study

GOAL: Obtain an update from the Joint Transportation Committee on the ongoing design-build study.

DESCRIPTION: During the 2015 legislative session, the Legislature directed the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) to conduct a study of the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) implementation of design-build project delivery. Design-build is a method of project delivery that allows the owner of a project to contract with a single entity for the design and construction of a project. Current law authorizes and strongly encourages the WSDOT to use design-build delivery for projects over \$2 million. To date, the WSDOT has used this contracting method on 29 projects.

The JTC has outlined the following objectives for the study:

- examine WSDOT's implementation of design-build project delivery to-date;
- evaluate whether WSDOT's use of design-build can be improved to ensure better project delivery and more efficient expenditure of taxpayer dollars, maximizing cost and schedule efficiencies, and ensuring that project risk is borne by the appropriate party;
- examine whether WSDOT's current design-build project selection criteria appropriately determine the optimal contractual delivery method;
- educate legislators and other stakeholders on the appropriate use of design-build delivery to deliver high quality large, medium, and/or small projects, while achieving excellent stewardship of taxpayer dollars; and
- develop strategies for WSDOT and the construction industry to successfully adapt to the changes in the scope or implementation of WSDOT design-build project delivery as recommended in the study.

The study is a 14-month study, with a final report due by December 1, 2016. At the November 2015 Committee Assembly meeting the JTC staff will provide an update to the Committee on the progress of the study.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Alyssa Ball

Washington State Patrol and Department of Transportation Efficiency and Effectiveness of Weigh Station Operations

GOAL: Review the planning, placement, and operations of the system of weigh stations in Washington.

DESCRIPTION: The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is responsible for the enforcement of laws concerning vehicle size and weight on all highways in Washington. There are weigh stations with fixed scales at five ports of entry and at 49 other sites. In addition, there are four plug-and-run portable scales and seven other weigh station locations with wheel load scales. In recent years, the WSP has closed the Federal Way scale, because of the alignment of the new onramps from SR 18 to I-5, and the Everett south bound scale, due to damage resulting from a vehicle collision.

The Department of Transportation (DOT), through its Commercial Vehicle Services Office, issues special permits to operate vehicles that are oversize or hauling weight greater than what is legally allowed on the state's highways. The department's Traffic Operations Division is responsible for the deployment of the technology equipment to check a motor carrier's safety and compliance records, along with weighing a truck at freeway speeds without requiring the truck to stop at a weigh station. The DOT also plays a role in the opening, closing, and placement of weigh stations.

To investigate current practices and changes to weigh station operations, the Legislature included a provision in the 2015-17 biennial transportation budget requiring the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) to study the issue. As part of the study, a consultant retained by the JTC will address specific legislative questions regarding plans to reopen a Federal Way area weigh station and the placement of future weigh stations in the highway median. The JTC will form a staff workgroup to provide support during the study.

At its November 2015 Committee Assembly meeting, the Committee will receive a briefing from JTC staff on the effectiveness and efficiencies of weigh station management, including findings and recommendations.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jerry Long

Washington State Patrol Trooper Recruitment and Retention

GOAL: Review the Washington State Patrol's trooper recruitment and retention efforts and obtain an understanding of any trooper recruitment and retention issues.

DESCRIPTION: In recent years, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) has encountered difficulty in maintaining a fully staffed field force. In July 2015 there were approximately 100 trooper vacancies. In addition, the agency has estimated that 209 troopers are eligible to retire by 2017. At the same time, the WSP has been unable to fill its trooper training classes, which can handle as many as 60 cadets, but which have recently attracted between 30 and 40 qualified applicants for each class. The Legislature authorized a study in the 2015-17 Transportation Budget to investigate the recruitment and retention issues that have developed over the last two biennia.

At its November 2015 Committee Assembly meeting, the Committee will receive a briefing from JTC staff on preliminary findings and recommendations from the study.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jerry Long

I-405 Express Toll Lane Implementation

GOAL: Obtain an update on the newly opened express toll lanes on I-405 and the conversion to 3+/2+ car pools.

DESCRIPTION: Under the Nickel and Transportation Partnership Account revenue packages, the Legislature funded the widening of I-405 from Lynnwood to Bellevue. The project includes constructing an additional lane and converting the existing high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to an express toll lane (ETL). An ETL allows vehicles with a minimum number of passengers to travel in the lane without charge and vehicles with a number of passengers below the minimum to use the ETL for a toll. The I-405 facility will join SR 167 as the state's second ETL facility and is scheduled to begin operation in Fall 2015.

As part of the new ETL facility, the car pool rules will change on I-405. Presently, the HOV lane is open to vehicles with a minimum of two passengers. Under the I-405 Executive Advisory Group, a group of local elected officials and transportation agency representatives that advise the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) on the I-405 project, a study concluded that the lanes do not meet required performance standards with the current 2+ policy and the group recommended a new policy of 3+ during peak commuting hours (5-9 A.M. and 3-7 P.M.) and 2+ during off-peak hours. The Washington State Transportation Commission adopted the new policy as part of its toll rate setting process.

The WSDOT will update the Committee on the implementation of the new facility, including information on any congestion reduction in the corridor, issues with the new car pool policy and updated revenue projections.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Alyssa Ball

Mega Project Update

GOAL: Obtain an update on the construction of the SR 99/Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement project and the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and High Occupancy Vehicle project.

DESCRIPTION: Under the Nickel and Transportation Partnership Account revenue packages, the Legislature funded both the SR 99/Alaskan Way Viaduct (AWV) Replacement project and the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) project.

The AWV Replacement project includes replacing the SR 99 viaduct with a tunnel, new highway connections to the south end of the tunnel, a new Alaskan Way surface street connecting SR 99 and downtown Seattle, and demolition of the existing viaduct. Currently, the tunneling project is delayed due to damage to the tunneling machine and is expected to resume in November 2015.

The SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV project includes constructing a new eastbound HOV lane, replacing the current floating bridge, and constructing a West Approach Bridge North (WABN) to connect the three westbound lanes from the new floating bridge to the Montlake area in Seattle. The eastside portion of the project is complete and open to traffic and the floating bridge and WABN are both currently under construction. Additionally, the 2015 Legislature provided \$1.6 billion to complete the "rest of the west" of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV project, which includes funding for the West Approach Bridge South, new Portage Bay bridge, and connection to I-5. Design work for the west side of the project will begin in the 2015-17 biennium.

At the November 2015 Committee Assembly meeting, the Committee will receive an update from the Washington State Department of Transportation on the progress of construction on both projects.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Alyssa Ball

Washington State Ferries - Vehicle Reservations System Implementation/Experience

GOAL: Learn about the Washington State Ferries' experience with implementing the Vehicle Reservations System on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands routes in 2015.

DESCRIPTION: In January 2015 the Washington State Ferries (WSF) implemented a Vehicle Reservations System (VRS) for all vehicles traveling on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands routes.

The VRS releases the first 30 percent of space allocated for reservations on sailings at the beginning of the summer season, an additional 30 percent two weeks before each sailing date, and the final 30 percent two days before each sailing date.

In April 2015 the VRS crashed due to the high volume of users attempting to access the system and make summer season reservations. After making changes to the system, the WSF reopened the reservations for summer sailings by staggering the release dates for the first 30 percent of reservable space.

At its November 2015 Committee Assembly meeting, the Committee will hear an update from the WSF on its experience with implementing the VRS and lessons learned.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Paul Ingiosi

2015 November Budget and Revenue Update

GOAL: Provide an overview of expected transportation revenue for the 2015-17 fiscal biennium, based on the November 2015 revenue forecast and changes since the March 2015 forecast. Provide an updated budget outlook based on the transportation agencies' 2016 supplemental budget requests.

DESCRIPTION: The Office of Financial Management (OFM) is responsible for preparing and adopting revenue forecasts other than those made by the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council. The OFM carries out the responsibilities for transportation revenues through the Transportation Revenue Forecast Council (Council). Each quarter, the forecasting staff of the Department of Licensing, Department of Transportation, Washington State Patrol, and the OFM produce the transportation forecasts. Members of the Council first meet to review and update the assumptions to be used for each of the transportation revenue sources and then meet again to adopt the official transportation revenue forecast.

Transportation budgets are biennial laws. The 2015-17 budget was enacted during the 2015 legislative session. The opportunity for agencies to request funding for emerging issues or technical corrections to the biennial budget is through the supplemental budget process; the first supplemental budget to the 2015-17 biennial budget will be developed in 2016.

The Committee will receive a briefing on the November 2015 transportation revenue forecast. In addition there will be an overview of the agencies' 2016 supplemental budget requests along with a comparison of the 2013-15 actuals to the appropriations for the biennium.

NUMBER & TYPE OF MEETINGS: One work session

STAFF: Jerry Long